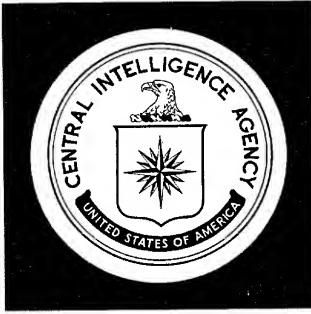


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CIA / SAVA / WIND 720408



WEEKLY VIETNAM INDICATORS

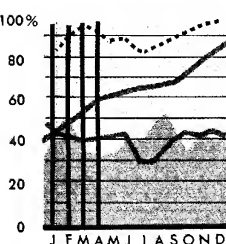
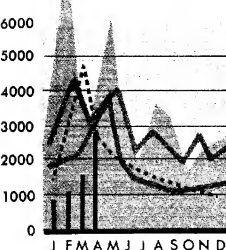
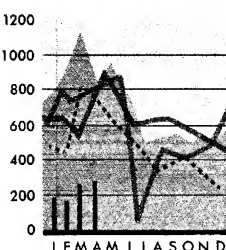
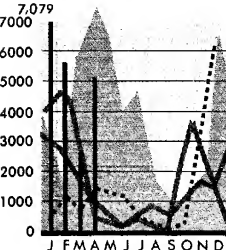
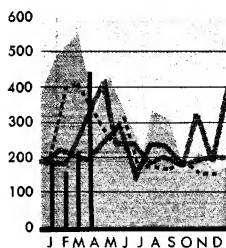
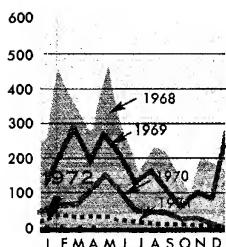
Week Ending 8 April 1972

NSA Declassification/Release Instructions on File.

For the President Only

~~Top Secret~~

SOUTH VIETNAM WEEKLY INDICATORS

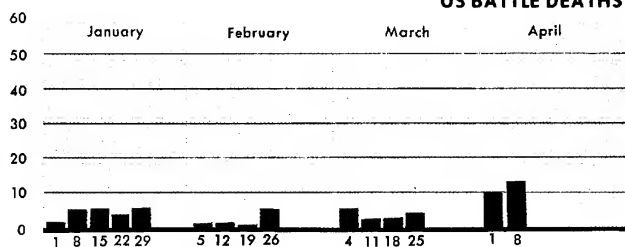
1968-1972
Weekly average for each month

JANUARY 1972 — APRIL 1972

Weekly data as reported

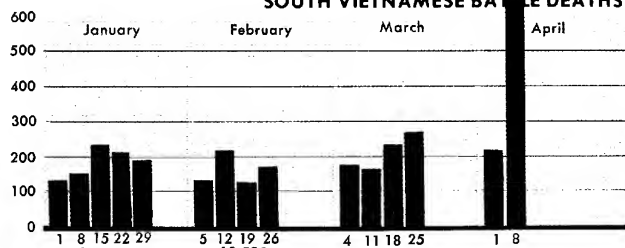
US BATTLE DEATHS

increased to 13 from the 10 reported last week.



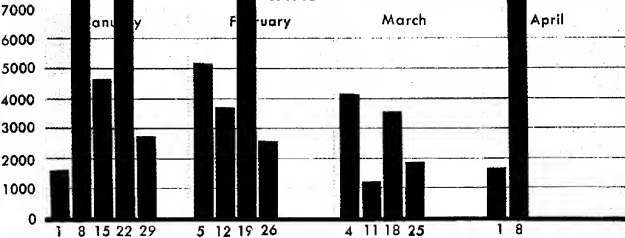
SOUTH VIETNAMESE BATTLE DEATHS

climbed sharply from last week's 213 to 680. The official total will change as late reports are received and will be lower than the figures released to the press by the GVN.



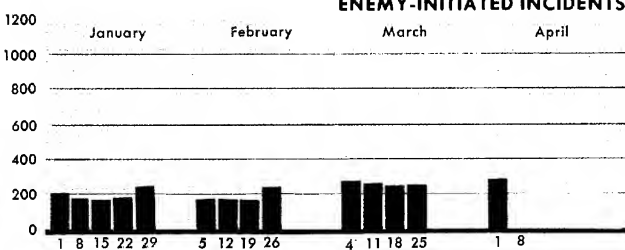
INFILTRATORS DETECTED IN PIPELINE

include eight regular, 15 special purpose, and 12 "gap-fill" groups totaling 8,445 personnel. The infiltration estimate for Cambodia and South Vietnam since 1 October 1971 is now some 107,500-109,500.



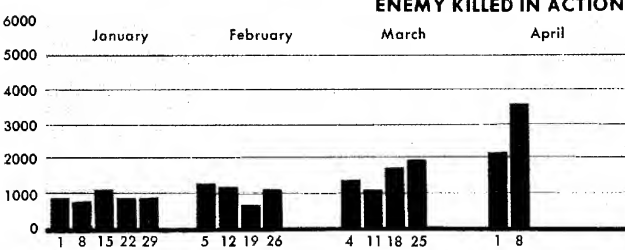
ENEMY-INITIATED INCIDENTS

reliable data unavailable.



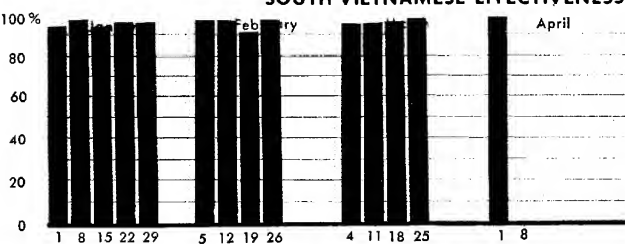
ENEMY KILLED IN ACTION

rose to 3,625 from last week's 2,150. This figure because of the fluid situation must be regarded as preliminary.



SOUTH VIETNAMESE EFFECTIVENESS

reliable data unavailable.



Statistics for the latest week shown are preliminary

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Enemy Activity

Enemy-initiated activity remained at a high level during the week with the Communists maintaining pressure through harassing attacks in Military Regions (MR) 1, 3, and 4. Poor weather and extremely heavy anti-aircraft fire have interfered with the use of Allied airpower to some extent, but the Communists have not been able to capitalize on this fact to make any significant gains. Overall, the South Vietnamese have, to date, acquitted themselves well, although some instances of spotty performance have been reported. In MR 1, the North Vietnamese appear to have lost their momentum, at least temporarily, as South Vietnamese resistance stiffened after the first shock of the offensive. The Government has used the recent lull in heavy fighting in MR 1 to reinforce its units and also acted quickly to move forces from the Mekong Delta to MR 3 when the Communists launched sharp attacks in Binh Long and Tay Ninh Provinces. Preemptive sweeps and bombing in the Highlands of MR 2 appear to have inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy and kept him off balance in that area. Shellings and harassing attacks against outposts and district towns in MR 4 increased this week, but Government forces seem to be in control of the situation in the Delta.

In north Laos, friendly forces remain in control of seven of the eleven helicopter pads on Skyline Ridge, with the other four positions currently not occupied by either friendly or enemy troops. Meanwhile, sources close to General Vang Pao report that he and his Meo troops are tired and running out of enthusiasm in view of their continuing losses and the seemingly endless series of battles they see ahead. Vang Pao himself is temporarily hospitalized with a strained back, has been unable to lead his troops personally, and has displayed a lack of his previous aggressiveness. Elsewhere in Laos, enemy activity has been light both in the area northeast of Luang Prabang, where government troops were attacked early in the week, and in the central Panhandle. Farther south in the Panhandle, Operation FANGUM units moving east toward the Bolovens Plateau have taken only light casualties while recovering several positions along Route 23.

In Cambodia, the lull in significant military activity continues into its third week, with only minor Communist harassing actions reported. Several government clearing operations in the Phnom Penh area have been concluded after making only light contact with the enemy. A major sweep operation west of the city is being planned. Sapper activity, small-scale ground probes, and attacks by fire are likely in the near future as the enemy tries to keep Cambodian forces committed to the defense of the capital.

Enemy Infiltration and Logistics

The acceptance of 8,445 personnel during the week brings the estimate of NVA infiltrators destined for Cambodia and South Vietnam since 1 October 1971 to some 107,500 - 109,500. The bulk of these infiltration detections were noted in the Laos Panhandle indicating a large portion of the week's total actually entered the pipeline some 30-60 days earlier.

Enemy logistics activity in southern Laos and Cambodia continues at a high level, although the effort may have recently been hampered somewhat by localized supply shortages and adverse weather. Continuing intensive logistic activity, however, is anticipated to support the large numbers of Communist forces currently confronting South Vietnam. Indeed, references to April as the "highpoint" month of the "General Transportation Offensive" suggests that more supplies are to be moved during the month than in any other month of the offensive.

~~Top Secret~~